

there's an office in Connecticut's government where people fight for children who aren't able to fight for themselves.

She also was integral in the passage of the Education Enhancement Act, which raised the pay of Connecticut's public school teachers. Dell Eads recognized that if we want our best and brightest to commit themselves to teaching our children, we need to commit ourselves to paying them fairly.

Dell Eads always seemed to find the right balance of toughness and tact. In the political arena, where it's often hard to figure out exactly what people are saying, Dell Eads wasn't one to mince words. If she had something on her mind, you were going to hear it. But when she spoke, she did so with the courtesy, class, and congeniality that earned her the admiration and friendship of her colleagues.

Though a Republican, she was respected by both Democrats and Republicans alike. She was loyal to her party—yet Dell Eads would never hesitate to reach across the aisle if there was work to be done.

No one could question Dell Eads' commitment to the people of Connecticut. After all, this was a woman who, at the age of 76, slipped and broke her collarbone—and reported to work at the State Capitol the very next day. And she continued to serve in the State Senate until she retired three years ago at the age of 80.

Dell Eads was slight in stature, but she was great in spirit. Her service was an inspiration not only to her colleagues in the Connecticut General Assembly, but to all the people of Connecticut. Our state has truly lost a great citizen, and a remarkable person.

I offer my most heartfelt sympathies to Dell Eads' two sons, Manuel and Gregory Eads, to her brother Manuel Diaz, to her five grandsons, and her entire family.●

TRIBUTE TO BRYAN JONES

● Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I wish to recognize Mr. Bryan Jones of Yazoo City, MS, for his distinguished service as president of Delta Council.

Delta Council is an area development organization representing the 18 Delta and part-Delta counties of Northwest Mississippi. Delta council was organized in 1935 to bring together the agricultural, business, and professional leadership of the region to confront the major problems facing the region at that time. Since then, the organization has expanded its role, under leaders like Bryan Jones, to include educational policy, water resource conservation, highway development, agricultural research, and flood control.

As president of Delta Council, Bryan Jones has served very effectively as a Delta leader during stressful economic times. He has used sound judgment and contributed to meaningful improvements in the quality of life in the region.

Bryan has led the Delta Council into new fields of endeavor such as health care and adult literacy. He has supported innovative land and water conservation programs. He has been a strong advocate for water resource developments that include improved environmental restoration. And, he has become well known throughout the region and among members of the Mississippi Congressional Delegation as an effective spokesperson on behalf of the Delta's largest industry, agriculture.

After graduating from the University of Mississippi, Bryan Jones could have been placed in a senior executive position in almost any company located anywhere in the United States. However, because of his love for the Mississippi Delta, Bryan returned to the Delta region and his community to build a \$1 billion statewide banking system. In addition to serving as the Chief Executive Officer of the Delta Division of BankPlus, Bryan operates a cotton, soybean, corn, and wheat farm in Holmes and Humphreys Counties.

Bryan is a member of the Second Presbyterian Church in Yazoo City and he and his wife, Sara, have three children. He is an enthusiastic outdoors man and a director of Delta Wildlife, which is a leading advocate for the enhancement of the Mississippi Delta's rich wildlife resources.

I am pleased to congratulate Bryan Jones for his contributions to the Mississippi Delta and the Nation, and I look forward to working with him and other Delta Council leaders in the future who share our goal of improving the quality of life for the people of this area.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:42 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2660. An act making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of

the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1474) to facilitate check truncation by authorizing substitute checks, to foster innovation in the check collection system without mandating receipt of checks in electronic form, and to improve the overall efficiency of the Nation's payments system, and for any other purposes, and asks for a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following members as the managers of the conference on the part of the House:

For consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. OXLEY, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. LATOURETTE, Ms. HART, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. FORD.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 2660. An act making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3150. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, Coast Guard, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Automatic Identification System; Vessel Carriage Requirement (USCG-2003-14757)" (RIN1625-AA67) received on June 26, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3151. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, Coast Guard, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Outer Continental Shelf Facility Security" (RIN1625-AA68 2003-0001) received on June 26, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3152. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, Coast Guard, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Area Maritime Security (USCG-2003-14733)" (RIN1625 2003-0001) received on June 26, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3153. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, Coast Guard, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Facility Security (USCG-2003-14732)" (RIN1625-AA43) received on June 26, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3154. A communication from the Senior Legal Advisor to the Bureau Chief, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.622(b), Table of Allotments, DTV Broadcast Stations, Belton, TX" (MB doc. no. 02-271, RM-10441) received June 1, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.